

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1           1.    A brokering facility for recording and outputting  
2   tender information via a voice communication network, the  
3   brokering facility comprising:  
4           recording means for recording, under voice menu control,  
5   tender information from tenderers calling via the voice  
6   communication network;  
7           a database for storing recorded tender information;  
8           requesting means for parties calling via the voice  
9   communication network to request, under voice menu control,  
10   tender information stored in the database, the tender  
11   information being available to various parties; and  
12           outputting means for outputting the requested tender  
13   information to a requesting party.

1           2.    The brokering facility of claim 1, comprising:  
2           a voice menu control device for requesting, under voice  
3   menu control, control information from a tenderer and/or a  
4   party calling via the voice communication network.

1           3.    The brokering facility of claim 2, wherein the  
2   recording means and/or the requesting means comprises  
3   selecting means for selecting an item of tender information

4 based on an item of selection information contained in  
5 requested control information.

1 4. The brokering facility of claim 2 or 3, wherein the  
2 tender information comprises different tender categories in  
3 the database, and wherein the recording means and/or the  
4 requesting means comprise selecting means for selecting a  
5 tender category based on selection information contained in  
6 requested control information.

1 5. The brokering facility of claim 1 further  
2 comprising:

3 means for detecting a location of a caller and for  
4 controlling the brokering facility based on of a detected  
5 location of the caller.

1 6. The brokering facility of claim 5, wherein the  
2 recording means records, under voice menu control, tender  
3 information from a tenderer based on a detected location of  
4 the tenderer.

1 7. The brokering facility of claim 5 or 6, wherein the  
2 requesting means requests, under voice menu control, tender  
3 information based on a detected location of the interested  
4 party.

1           8.    The brokering facility of claim 1, further  
2 comprising:

3           authentication means for verifying an item of  
4 authentication information that is entered by a calling  
5 tenderer and for granting access authorization to the tenderer  
6 if the authentication information is verified.

1           9.    The brokering facility of claim 1, further  
2 comprising:

3           detecting means for detecting connection identification  
4 information from callers, and a database in which an item of  
5 connection identification information from a caller has an  
6 associated individual item of user profile information.

1           10.   The brokering facility of claim 9, wherein the  
2 recording means records, under voice menu control, tender  
3 information based on stored user profile information  
4 associated with a detected item of connection identification  
5 information from a tenderer.

1           11.   The brokering facility of claim 9 or 10, wherein the  
2 requesting means requests, under voice menu control, tender  
3 information on the basis of stored user profile information  
4 associated with a detected item of connection identification  
5 information from a party.

1           12. The brokering facility of claim 1, further  
2 comprising:  
3           a switching device for setting up a connection between a  
4 party and a tenderer of an item of tender information selected  
5 by the party.

1           13. The brokering facility of claim 1, further  
2 comprising:  
3           logging means for logging access operations to tender  
4 information from a tenderer and for outputting logged access  
5 information to the tenderer.

1           14. The brokering facility of claim 1, further  
2 comprising:  
3           bytebiting means for detecting access operations to the  
4 brokering facility and for debiting charges for individual  
5 tenderers and/or interested parties based on detected access  
6 operation

1           15. A brokering system comprising:  
2           a plurality of brokering facilities according to claim 1,  
3 each brokering facility further comprising:  
4           means for detecting a location of a caller; and  
5           a switching device for setting up a connection  
6 between the caller and a one of the brokering facilities  
7 that detects the location of the caller.